

### REMARKS

Claims 17-32 remain in the application.

#### The Rejection:

In the Office Action dated March 16, 2007, the Examiner rejected Claims 17-32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(c) as being anticipated by Conte (US 6,658,726). The Examiner stated that Conte discloses in Fig. 1 8-11 and 22 of different cable-end processing stations and 22 being a double crimping unit; 5-6 provide cables and belt drives; 7 is the swiveling arm and gripper; Fig. 8 shows a turntable with a belt drive below 46 and 47; 14 is a cable transportation belt.

#### The Response:

Attached are Fig. 1 from Conte and Conte Figs. 5 and 8 as marked-up by the Examiner.

In Fig. 1, Conte shows a cable deposit device 1 connected to an automatic cable processing unit 2 whereby cables 3, 4 that have been processed by the unit 2 may be deposited separately for the manufacture of double crimped cables 25 or two single conductors having different diameters (Col. 2, Lines 19-26). Two belt drives 5, 6 supply the two cables 3, 4 to a pivot head 7 that supplies the leading end of each of two cables 3, 4 to one or more processing stations 8 to 11 for stripping and attaching a crimp contact (Col. 2, Lines 27-31). After processing, the leading ends of the cables 3, 4 are ejected from the pivot head 7 into the cable deposit device 1 (Col. 2, Lines 32-34). A conveyor 14 receives and stretches out the cables 3, 4 in a region 15 (Col. 2, Lines 35-47). Thus, the pivot head 7 moves only the leading ends of the cables 3, 4.

A separate pivot arm 21 with gripping units 19, 20 is positioned at the entry to the conveyor 14 to grip the rear ends of the cables 3, 4 and supply them to a stripping unit 42, a unit 43 for bringing the cable ends together and a double crimping unit 22. The pivot arm 21 moves only the rear or trailing ends of the cables 3, 4. This is clearly shown in Conte Fig. 5 (attached).

The Examiner added the notes "leading cable end" and "trailing cable end" to Conte Fig. 8 (attached). The Examiner has the cable ends reversed. As stated above, the pivot arm 21 with the gripping units 19, 20 grips the rear or trailing ends of the cables 3, 4 and supplies them to the

stripping unit 42, the unit 43 for bringing the cable ends together and the double crimping unit 22. Since the leading cable ends already have a crimp contact attached, the cable ends without the double crimp contact 25 as shown in Fig. 8 must be the trailing cable ends. See Conte Fig. 5 (attached) where the Examiner correctly identified the leading and trailing ends of the cables and the double crimp contact 25 has been installed on the trailing ends.

The Examiner identified the Conte pivot head 7 as the swiveling arm and gripper of Applicants' claims. The Conte pivot head 7 does not correspond to Applicants' swiveling arm with gripper.

Applicants' independent Claim 17 recites a swiveling arm with a gripper mounted at one end for holding in sequence each of the leading cable-end and the trailing cable-end of the cable-length to be processed, the gripper and the swiveling arm being a sole means for holding and moving respectively the leading and trailing cable-ends of the cable-length. Applicants' independent Claim 26 recites a swiveling device having a swiveling arm with a gripper at one end for sequentially holding the leading and trailing cable-ends, the swiveling arm being a sole means for moving the leading and trailing cable-ends from the cutting and stripping station to the crimping presses and away from the crimping presses.

The Conte pivot head 7 is not the "sole means for holding and moving respectively the cable-ends". In Conte, the leading ends and the rear ends of the cables 3, 4 are held, moved and processed by separate pivoting and processing devices. As stated above, the Conte pivot head 7 supplies the leading end of each of two cables 3, 4 to one or more processing stations 8 to 11 for stripping and attaching a crimp contact. After processing, the leading ends are ejected from the pivot head 7 to the cable deposit device 1. The pivot head 7 moves only the leading ends of the cables and not the rear or trailing ends. The Conte pivot arm 21 with the gripping units 19, 20 supplies rear or trailing ends of the cables 3, 4 to the stripping unit 42, the unit 43 for bringing the cable ends together and the double crimping unit 22. The pivot arm 21 moves only the rear or trailing ends of the cables and not the leading ends.

Thus, Conte does not show or suggest the invention recited in Applicants' Claims 17-32.

In view of the above arguments, Applicants believe that the claims of record now define patentable subject matter over the art of record. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.